



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-8900

## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: January 15, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) California Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program for MRCA Interpretive Programs**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the NOAA B-WET grant program for MRCA Interpretive Programs.

Background: The MRCA Junior Naturalist (formerly Junior Ranger) Programs are found to be well received in under served communities. This grant will allow the MRCA to extend the in-depth multi-week form of programming to youth located in and around Oxnard, California with MRCA Junior Naturalist - Ocean Unit. This program will focus on the goals of both the NOAA B-WET program and the MRCA in regard to promoting the health of the state's marine coastal eco-systems. The MRCA Junior Naturalist - Ocean Unit program programs will focus on reaching communities that are currently poorly served in terms of marine and coastal education by partnering with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme within the Santa Barbara Channel Watershed.

The WHALE TAIL® Grants Program distributes funds from sales of the WHALE TAIL® License Plate. The grants support programs that teach California's children and the general public to value and take action to improve the health of the state's marine and coastal resources.

The NOAA B-WET program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, systematic experiential learning in the K-12 environment. The primary delivery of the NOAA B-WET Program is through competitive funding that promotes Meaningful Watershed Education Experiences. The MRCA Junior Naturalist - Ocean Unit program fulfills these requirements with lessons, trips, and interpretive programs.

The grant request will not exceed \$60,000.